## U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management Carson City District Office

## CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Project Lead: J. Hufnagle

Field Office: Sierra Front

Lead Office: Sierra Front

Case File/Project Number: NVN 089927

Applicable Categorical Exclusion (cite section): 516 DM 11.9 E. Realty (17) Grant of short rights-of-way for utility service or terminal access roads to an individual residence, outbuilding, or water well.

NEPA Number: DOI-BLM-NV-2011-C020-0504-CX

Project Name: Ross Access ROW

**Project Description:** Greg and Susan Ross have applied for a FLPMA right-of-way (ROW) 2,650 feet in length and 60 feet in width (3.65 acres) for access purposes to serve private residential land. The Ross's have recently purchased the property and plan to complete development of the private land for residential use. The application involves public land in Douglas County south of State Route 208 in the vicinity of Jack Wright Summit. The ROW encompasses an existing improved dirt and gravel road previously authorized under BLM ROW NVN 055325. Periodic maintenance to keep the road in a safe and usable condition is anticipated. There is a potential for further improvement of the road within the 60 foot wide proposed ROW boundaries, but no scheduled work at this time.

Applicant Name: Greg and Susan Ross

Project Location: Mt. Diablo Meridian, T 10 N, R 23 E, sec. 8, W½NW¼, W½NW¼SW¼.

BLM Acres for the Project Area: 3.65 acres

Land Use Plan Conformance (cite reference/page number): Lands and Realty Administrative Actions 3. All applicants for right-of-way grants, whether or not they are within corridors, are subject to standard approval procedures as outlined in the right-of-way regulations (43 CFR 2802)/ROW-4

Name of Plan: NV - Carson City RMP.

**Screening of Extraordinary Circumstances:** The following extraordinary circumstances apply to individual actions within categorical exclusions (43 CFR 46.215). The BLM has considered the following criteria:

(Specialist review: initial in appropriate box)

If any question is answered 'yes' an EA or EIS must be prepared.	YES	NO
1. Would the Proposed Action have significant impacts on public health or safety?		MA
(project lead/P&EC)		7401
2. Would the Proposed Action have significant impacts on such natural resources		ne
and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park,		10
recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural		1
landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands		PZ
(EO 11990); floodplains (EO 11988); national monuments; migratory birds (EO		
13186); and other ecologically significant or critical areas?		
(wildlife biologist, hydrologist, outdoor recreation planner, archeologist)		SC
3. Would the Proposed Action have highly controversial environmental effects or		
involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources		JOH
[NEPA 102(2)(E)]? (project lead/P&EC)		0
4. Would the Proposed Action have highly uncertain and potentially significant		
environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?		900
(project lead/P&EC)		0
5. Would the Proposed Action establish a precedent for future action or represent a		
decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental		1 Soft
effects? (project lead/P&EC)		0
6. Would the Proposed Action have a direct relationship to other actions with		0.4
individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects? (project lead/P&EC)		***
7. Would the Proposed Action have significant impacts on properties listed, or		0
eligible for listing, on the NRHP as determined by the bureau or office? (archeologist)		68
8. Would the Proposed Action have significant impacts on species listed, or		50
proposed to be listed, on the list of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have		PZ
significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species? (wildlife biologist,		
botanist)		AT
9. Would the Proposed Action violate federal law, or a State, local or tribal law or		
requirement imposed for the protection of the environment? (project lead/P&EC)		) Att
10. Would the Proposed Action have a disproportionately high and adverse effect		0.41
on low income or minority populations (EA 12898)? (project lead/P&EC)		74
11. Would the Proposed Action limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred		
sites on federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely		
affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 13007)? (archeologist)		SC
12. Would the Proposed Action contribute to the introduction, continued existence,		
or spread of noxious weeds or non-native species known to occur in the area or		
actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of		XT
such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and EO 13112)? (botanist)		PL

**SPECIALISTS' REVIEW:** During ID Team consideration of the above Proposed Action and extraordinary circumstances, the following specialists reviewed this CX:

Jo Ann Hufnagle, Lead Realty Specialist
Arthur Callan, Outdoor Recreation Planner
Niki Cutler, Hydrologist
Steve Christy, Archaeologist
Pilar Ziegler, Wildlife Biologist/BLM Sensitive Species - Wildlife
Dean Tonenna, Botanist - Natural Resource Specialist/BLM Sensitive Species - Plants
Brian Buttazoni, Planning & Environmental Coordinator

Although BLM Sensitive Species is not described in one of the 12 extraordinary circumstances question, review of the applicability of this CX has taken them into consideration.

**CONCLUSION:** Based upon the review of this Proposed Action, I have determined that the above-described project is a categorical exclusion, in conformance with the LUP, and does not require an EA or EIS. A categorical exclusion is not subject to protest or appeal.

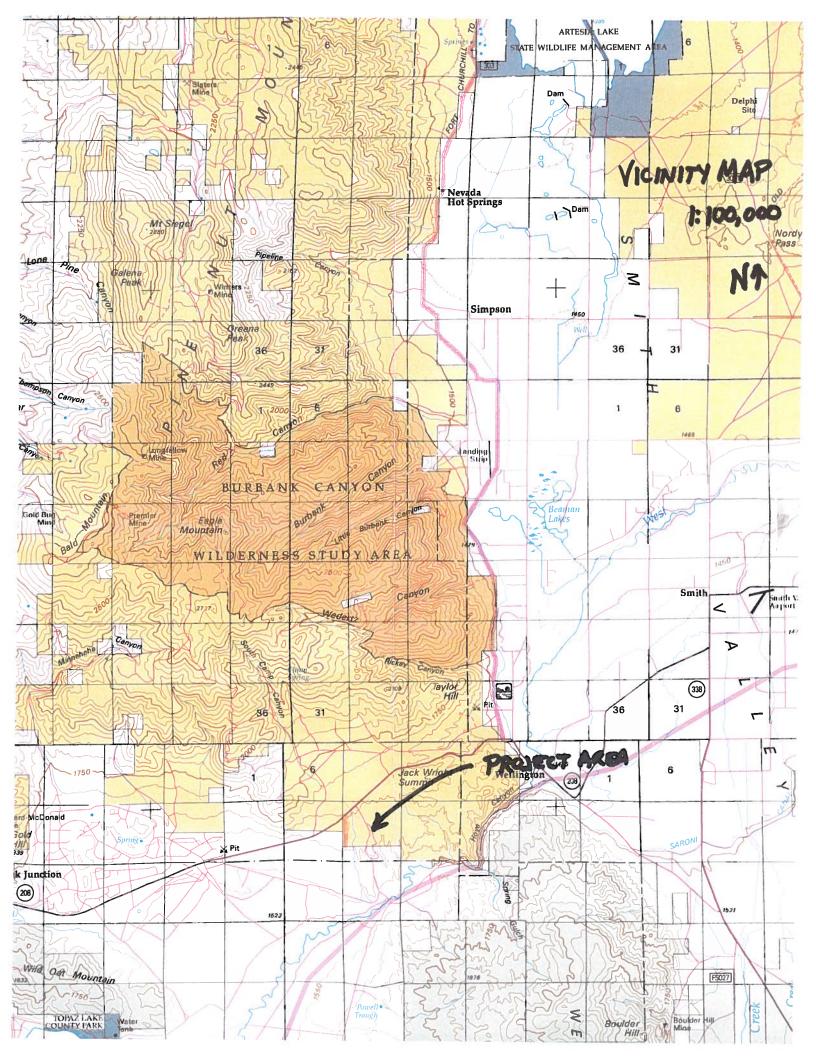
**DECISION:** It is my decision to implement the action, as described and approve the ROW for a 30-year term, with right to renew, subject to standard terms, conditions and stipulations.

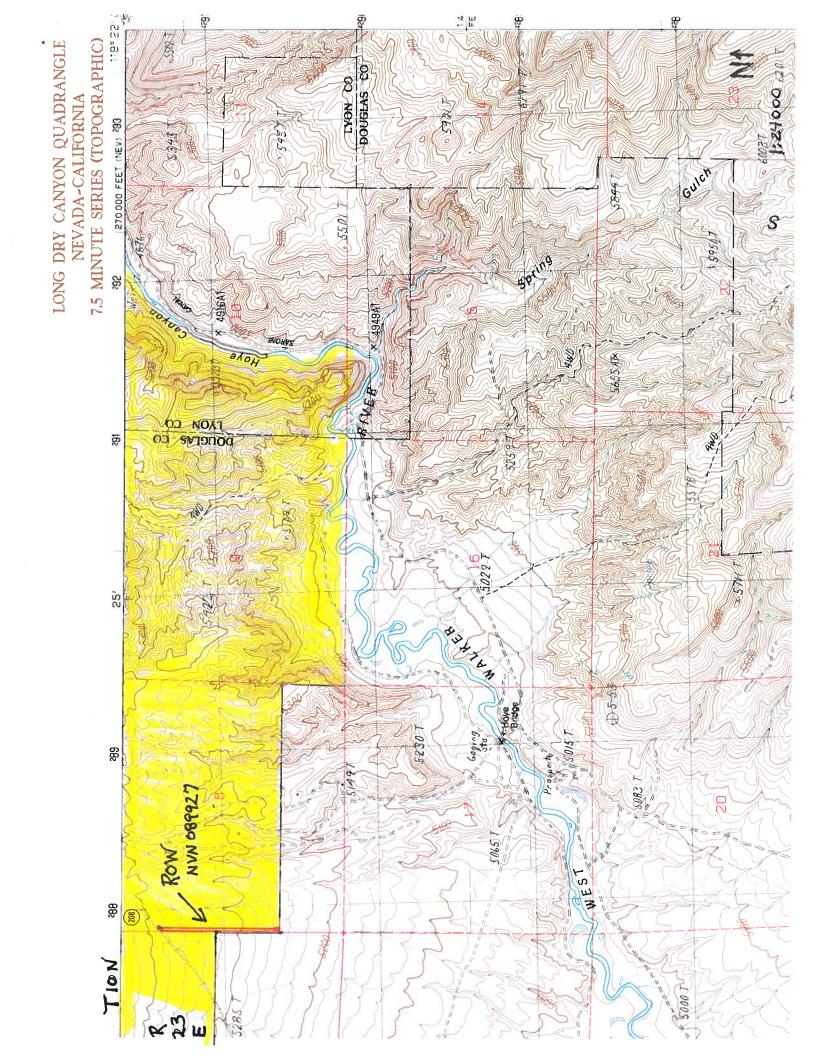
Approved by:

Field Manager

Sierra Front Field Office

8/19/2011 (Date)





## ROSS ROW - EXISTING ROAD 12/1/2009



Looking north towards intersection with SR 208



Looking south along ROW area from SR 208